

BASF Aktiengesellschaft

as originally filed

We claim:

1. A process for preparing isocyanates by reacting an amine or a mixture of two or more amines with phosgene containing less than 50 ppm of bromine or iodine or their mixtures in molecular or bound form.
2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the phosgene contains less than 25 ppm of bromine or iodine or mixtures thereof in molecular or bound form.
3. A process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the reaction is carried out in a solvent.
4. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the amine used is an amine of the diphenylmethanediamine series or a mixture of two or more such amines.
5. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 carried out in one or two stages.
6. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the reaction is carried out under super-atmospheric pressure or atmospheric pressure.
7. An isocyanate able to be prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6.
8. The use of isocyanates able to be prepared as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 or of an isocyanate as claimed in claim 7 for preparing urethane compounds.

All good

[illegible]